Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)
5.	Visakhapatnam Thermal Power Project, M/s. Hinduja National Power Corporation Ltd., Andhra Pradesh.	1040

Of the projects mentioned above, the Dabhol Combined Cycle Gas Turbine, Phase-I (740 MW) and the Jegurupadu Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (216 MW) have been fully commissioned. The Neyveli Thermal Power Project (250 MW) is under construction. The promoters of the 1082 MW Bhadravati Thermal Power Project and the 1040 MW Visakhapatnam Thermal Power Project are yet to achieve financial closure and commence construction activities.

Besides these, the 208 MW Godavari CCGT in Andhra Pradesh of M/s. Spectrum Power Generation Limited, for which the request for counter guarantee had withdrawn by the promoters, has also been fully commissioned.

In the case of the remaining two projects, on December 22, 1999, the Government of India approved extension of counter guarantee, through the revised procedure for the 500 MW Ib Valley Thermal Power Project in Orissa of M/s. AES Ib Valley Corporation and the 1013.2 MW Mangalore Thermal Power Project in Karnataka of M/s. Mangalore Power Company Ltd. The draft counter guarantee and tripartite agreement documents in respect of these two projects have been forwarded to the respective State Governments for comments/ necessary action. Both these projects are also yet to achieve financial closure and commence construction activities.

Distress sale of cotton by cotton growers in Orissa

*476. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the distress sale of cotton by cotton growers in Rayagada district in Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken to give minimum support price for cotton in that part of Orissa; and

(c) the steps taken to protect the interest of cotton growers there?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) There is no such report.

(b) During the current cotton season, as the market prices of kapas in Orissa for all varieties of kapas are ruling well above the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs), the support price operation has not been undertaken so far.

(c) Government have taken several steps to protect the interests of cotton growers in the country including the state of Orissa; important ones are declaration of Minimum Support Price (MSP), release of cotton export quota, and launching of Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC).

Introduction of visa-on arrival scheme

*477. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, with a view to boost tourism, Government are considering a scheme under which visa-on arrival to select countries will be introduced;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when, this scheme is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) A proposal of the Ministry of Tourism to gant visa-on arrival to individual foreign tourists from a few selected countries was examined in this Ministry but could not be agreed to mainly due to security considerations. However, the Ministry of Tourism have requested the Ministry of Home Affairs to re-consider the proposal and a joint meeting is proposed to be held soon.